

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for processing data in a data processing system where the system comprises at least one of a plurality of data processing units and a plurality of operator and observation units, all of which are interconnected via a data transmission unit, wherein a respective data processing program with associated function modules and data modules is implemented on each of the data processing units, the method comprising:

storing at least one identifier for each module in a conversion table belonging to the respective data processing unit;

enabling a first data processing unit from among the plurality of data processing units to access a data module or a function module of a different, second, data processing unit by providing the conversion table in such a way that retrieval of the respective data module or function module is performed on the basis of the first data processing unit using an external identifier which characterizes the access;

determining whether the conversion table includes an internal identifier corresponding to the external identifier;

processing the data module or the function module of the respective data processing unit if a corresponding internal identifier is included in the conversion table for the respective external identifier; and

leaving the data module or the function module of the respective data processing unit unprocessed if a corresponding internal identifier is not included in the conversion table for the respective external identifier; and

outputting a status information message indicating whether the data module or the function module of the respective data processing unit has been processed.

wherein said storing comprises assigning an external identifier for each module that has been changed by linking new external identifier to the internal identifier of a respective module, and storing the new assigned external identifier in the conversion table while deleting a link to the internal identifier for an old external identifier of the respective module.

2. (original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one stored identifier is stored in the respective data module or function module.

3. (original): A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
updating the conversion table when there is a change in the function module or in the data module.

4. (original): A method as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:
sending a change message to the data processing unit or the operator and observation unit relevant to the update whenever the conversion table is updated.

5. (original): A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein each update of the conversion table comprises a respective time stamp or a version identifier.

6. (original): A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein during a startup of the data processing unit or the operator and observation unit, the respective time stamp saved is queried and updated.

7. (currently amended): A method for processing data of a data processing system that includes a plurality of data processing units interconnected via a data transmission unit, wherein each data processing unit has a data processing program with program modules, wherein at least one respective identifier for each of the modules is stored for a respective one of the data processing units, comprising:

supplying an external identifier from a sending data processing unit, to access a program module of a receiving data processing unit;

converting the external identifier into an internal identifier of the receiving data processing unit;

comparing the converted internal identifier with other internal identifiers of the receiving data processing unit; and

enabling the access to the program module of the receiving data processing unit only if the converted internal identifier corresponds with another of the internal identifiers of the receiving data processing unit; and

outputting a status information message indicating whether the data module or the function module of the respective data processing unit has been processed,

wherein said supplying of the external identifier comprises assigning the external identifier for each module that has been changed by linking the new external identifier to the internal identifier of a respective module, and storing the new assigned external identifier in the conversion table while deleting a link to the internal identifier for an old external identifier of the respective module.

8. (currently amended): A data processing system, comprising:

a plurality of data processing units;

a transmission link interconnecting the data transmission units; and

at least one component configured to receive an identifier from one of the data processing units in order to access a module of another of the data processing units, to convert the identifier into a converted identifier, to compare the converted identifier with other identifiers of the other data processing unit, and to enable the access to the program module of the other data processing unit only if the converted identifier corresponds with another of the identifiers of the other data processing unit,

wherein the external identifier is assigned by the at least one component for each module that has been changed by linking the new external identifier to the internal identifier of a respective module while deleting a link to the internal identifier for an old external identifier of the respective module.

9. (original): The data processing system according to claim 8, wherein the component is incorporated into the other data processing unit.

10. (original): The data processing system according to claim 9, wherein each of the data processing units comprises a respective one of the components.

11. (original): The data processing system according to claim 8, wherein the component comprises a conversion table converting the identifier into the converted identifier and an analysis module enabling the access to the program module based on a result of the comparison.

12. (new): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the external identifier represents an identifier of an object by which an external data processing unit can access another processing unit with the conversion table being interposed therein between.

13. (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the data processing units are components of an industrial installation.